

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 2, 5-8, and 10-17 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a signal processing circuit for use in a CD reproducing device for reproducing both CD-ROM data and audio data. (Applicant's specification, at p. 1, lines 5-7).

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 5-8, 10-14, 16, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,801) in view of Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,440). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 7 is as follows:

A signal processing circuit processing a signal reproduced from a CD in which a CD-ROM data or CD-DA data is written, comprising:

a memory;

a CD-ROM decoder writing, when the CD from which the signal is to be reproduced is a CD-ROM, incoming CD-ROM data into said memory, and decoding said CD-ROM data while reading out the CD-ROM data from said memory;

an anti-shock controller causing, when the CD from which the signal is to be reproduced is a CD-DA, a predetermined amount of incoming CD-DA audio data to be stored in said memory, and reading and outputting the audio data from said memory, so that continuous output can be achieved even when the incoming audio data is interrupted;

a first arbiter generating an output signal for controlling said memory according to a request signal from said CD-ROM decoder;

a second arbiter generating an output signal for controlling said memory according to a request signal from said anti-shock controller;

a selection circuit selecting an output signal from said first or second arbiter; and

an MP3 decoder performing MP3 decoding on data encoded in MP3 format and output from said CD-ROM decoder;

wherein the first arbiter further performs read-out control in accordance with a read-out request signal from the MP3 decoder; and

an output signal from said first arbiter is selected by said selection circuit when the CD from which the signal is to be reproduced is a CD-ROM, and, when the CD from which the signal is to be reproduced is a CD-DA, an output signal from said second arbiter is selected by said selection circuit.

The Office states that Watanabe has a first arbiter (digital signal processor 15) and a second arbiter (digital signal processor 15). However, the digital signal processor 15 of Watanabe does not receive a request signal from a CD-ROM decoder or anti-shock controller as taught by present claim 7. In Watanabe, the digital signal processor 15 receives a signal from an analog signal processor 14 and provide signals to a CD-ROM decoder 15.

Furthermore, the digital signal processor 15 does not generate an output signal for controlling the memory 17. The CD-ROM decoder 16 decodes and generates control signal. Control microcomputer 18 of Watanabe does not select an output signal from said first or second arbiter (digital signal processor 15). The control microcomputer 18 does not receive a decoded signal from the digital signal processor 15.

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Amdt. Dated May 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 25, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 81784.0239
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Lee cannot remedy the defect of Watanabe and is not relied upon by the Office for such. Instead, the Office cites Lee for teaching an MP3 car player which has the ability to read both CDs and MP3 CD-ROMs using a file type detector 100, which determines what is the file format of the audio file.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references could not have rendered claim 7 obvious because the cited references fail to teach or suggest each and every claim limitation. Claims 5, 6, 8, 10-14, 16, and 17 depend from claim 7 and therefore, cannot be rendered obvious over Watanabe and Lee for at least the same reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of this rejection is thus respectfully requested.

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,801) in view of Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,440) and further in view of Microsoft Dictionary. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 15 depends from claim 7 and therefore, cannot be rendered obvious over Watanabe and Lee for at least the same reasons discussed above. Microsoft Dictionary cannot remedy the defect of Watanabe and Lee and is not relied upon by the Office for such. Instead, the Office cites Microsoft Dictionary for disclosing a refresh cycle in which repeated electric pulses are provided to a dynamic RAM in order to renew the stored electric charges in the location containing a binary 1.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references could not have rendered claim 15 obvious because the cited references fail to teach or suggest each and every claim limitation. Withdrawal of this rejection is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the foregoing remarks, are requested.

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If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

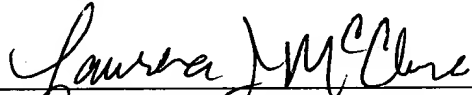
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: May 25, 2005

By:



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